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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/040,317	10/25/2001	Alexander Serkh	B01-068A	9845

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EXAMINER

HOANG, JOHNNY H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3747

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/040,317

Applicant(s)

SERKH ET AL.

Examiner

Johnny H. Hoang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on January 22, 2004 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered by examiner but is ineffective to overcome the new references.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 8-12, and 14-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hayakawa et al (US 4,478,595).

Regarding claim 1, the reference of Hayakawa et al teaches an electric control apparatus for belt tensioners including the following subject matters:

a endless drive member having a drive member parameter (abstract; and col. 3, lines 57-61);

a sensor detecting the drive member parameter and having a sensor signal (col. 4, lines 40-65);

a module for receiving the sensor signal from the sensor and for processing the sensor signal and for generating a control signal (col. 4, line 66 through col. 7, line 63);

a moveable member receiving the control signal, whereby the moveable member movement adjusts a drive member tension (col. 4, lines 5-39; and above discussions).

Regarding claims 2-4, ad discussed in claim 1.

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Regarding claims 8, the reference of Hayakawa et al teaches an electric control apparatus for belt tensioners including the following subject matters: a method of adjusting a drive member (col. 1, line 56 through col. 2 line 2) comprising the steps of:

sensing a drive member parameter (as discussed in claim 1);

generating a drive member parameter sensor signal (as discussed in claim 1);

transmitting a drive member parameter sensor signal to a control module (as discussed in claim 1);

processing the sensor signal generating a control module signal (as discussed in claim 1);

transmitting a control module signal to an actuator (see abstract);

energizing the actuator (see abstract); and

adjusting a drive member parameter (as above discussions).

Regarding claims 9 (as discussed in claims 1, and 8).

Regarding claims 10-12, and 14-16 (as discussed in claims 1-9).

Regarding claims 17-20 (as discussed in claims 1, and 8).

Regarding claims 21-32 (as above discussions).

Regarding claim 33, Hayakawa et al teaches an electric control apparatus for belt tensioners including the following subject matters:

operating a drive having a belt engaged with a first accessory and a second accessory, said belt having a tension (col. 3, lines 32-61);

measuring a first accessory hubload, a second accessory hubload and a second accessory rotational speed (above discussions; and col. 7, lines 22-42);

calculating a first accessory slack side tension using a first accessory hubload, a second accessory hubload and a second accessory rotational speed (as above discussions);

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detecting a first accessory load condition (as above discussions);

calculating a first accessory belt slack side tension using a first accessory load condition (as above discussions);

comparing a calculated first accessory belt slack side tension using a first accessory load condition to a calculated first accessory belt slack side tension using a first accessory hubload, a second accessory hubload and a second accessory rotational speed (as above discussions); and

adjusting a belt tension (as above discussions).

Regarding claims 34-39 (as above discussions).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa et al in view of Kouno et al (US 5,085,104).

Regarding claim 5, with reference to above rejections, the reference of Hayakawa et al discloses all that is claimed except the moveable member comprises a hydraulic actuator. The reference of Kouno et al teaches a hydraulic control apparatus for vehicle power transmitting system which including: the movable rotors 50, 52 are moved by respective first and second hydraulic actuators in the form of first and second hydraulic cylinders 54, 56, whereby the effective widths of V grooves of the pulleys 40, 42, i.e. (col. 5, line 59 through col. 6, line 6). It

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would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the system which including the moveable member comprises a hydraulic actuator as taught by Kouno et al, so as to provide efficient apparatus for belt tensioners of Hayakawa et al.

Regarding claims 6-7, and 13 (as discussed in claims 1, 8, and 5).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed January 22, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not completely persuasive. **Claims 1-39 are pending.**

a. Applicants have argued that the reference of Hayakawa et al does not directly sense a belt load parameter as claimed.

In response to applicant's arguments, Examiner agree with the applicants that the reference of Hayakawa et al does not directly sense a belt load parameter, because in the claim of the application, Applicants do not mentions about the sensing a belt load parameter.

b. Applicants have argued that Hayakawa et al do not disclose in col. 4, lines 40-65 about the limitation relating to a sensor detecting the drive member parameter.

In response to applicant's arguments, the reference of Hayakawa et al has already disclosed in the abstract and col. 3, line 32 through col. 4, line 15.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

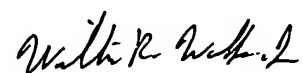
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnny H. Hoang whose telephone number is (703) 308-2782. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday (7:00Am-5: 30Pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Yuen can be reached on (703) 308-1946. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JHH
March 11, 2004

Johnny H. Hoang
Examiner
Art Unit 3747



Willis R. Wells
Primary Examiner

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